

the British Pharmacopœia. A *posological* table is added of the most important, and mostly poisonous remedies used in the treatment of cutaneous diseases; together with a copious table of contents, and a bibliographical index of the leading authorities adduced.

Notices of the following, among other cutaneous diseases, occur for the first time in the present edition: namely—rubeola, scarlatina, variola and its allies; furunculus, anthrax, pustula maligna, lepra hebræorum, elephantiasis, morphee, frambœsia, morbus tauricus, Aleppo evil, ngerengere, pellagra, morbus Addisonii.

Considerable additions have been made to the chapter on parasitic diseases, or dermatophytæ, and also to the chapters on diseases of the hair and nails, and to that on therapeutics.

The general index is very full, and comprises the cutaneo-nosological synonyms used by ancient and modern writers in England and other countries. Although the account given in this work of the different cutaneous diseases is a very concise one, a bare outline, it is, nevertheless, very uniformly clear and accurate, furnishing a fair exposition of the present condition of the knowledge and experience of our profession in respect to the pathology and management of these affections. From it the student will gain such preliminary instruction as will enable him to profit by the study of the more extended treatises and monographs on skin diseases that have or may appear, while the practitioner is directed to those sources from whence he may acquire reliable information on these affections, generally, or any one of them which may from any cause at the time claim his attention.

D. F. C.

ART. XXXIII.—*Practical Therapeutics, considered chiefly with reference to Articles of the Materia Medica.* By EDWARD JOHN WARING, F. R. C. S., F. L. S., Surgeon in her Majesty's Indian Army. From the second London edition. 8vo. pp. 815. Philadelphia: Lindsay & Blakiston, 1866.

MR. WARING has produced a book which entitles him to the thanks of students, as well as of all who need a work on therapeutics, in which each item is very briefly and authoritatively described. An index of diseases, in which will be found indicated the medicines which have been used or are applicable to each affection named, and also an index of medicines, &c., in addition to the alphabetical arrangement of the whole text, render reference to the volume easy and satisfactory.

The work is divided into an introduction, in which the art of prescribing medicines, their doses at different ages, and under various circumstances, are briefly considered; a first part, in which the articles of the materia medica, alphabetically arranged, are treated of chiefly in reference to their supposed curative properties in an empirical sense, and a second part, in which the therapeutic qualities of classes of medicines, as stimulants, &c., as well as the curative influence of certain remedies, as bathing, electricity, &c., also alphabetically arranged, are discussed.

Mr. Waring's mode of treating each article may be understood from the following extract, selected because it is short:—

"300. APIOL. APIOLUM. A peculiar principle of the seeds of *Petroselinum sativum*, or Common Parsley, obtained by treating them with alcohol at 158° to 176° F. It occurs in the form of a yellowish oily liquid, and with an odour somewhat resembling the powdered seeds, and an acrid, piquant taste. It is soluble in alcohol, ether, and chloroform.

"*Med. Prop. and Action.* Tonic, anti-periodic and emmenagogue. Joret and Homolle found that, when taken in doses of gutt. viij–xv, it occasioned slight cerebral excitement, similar to that produced by coffee, together with epigastric warmth. In doses of ʒss–ʒj, it caused vertigo, tinnitus aurium, headache, &c., similar to the effects produced by a strong dose of Quinine. Occasionally, its use was followed by nausea, colic, and bilious diarrhœa.

"*Dose*, gutt. viij–xv in syrup.

"301. *Therapeutic Uses. In Intermittent Fevers*, the value of Apiol has been examined by Joret and Homolle. Of 43 cases of all types, collected from various parts of France, 37 were cured, and in the remaining 6 the fever was modified, but not removed. Of 30 cases occurring in hot climates, only 16 were cured. From these facts, it is concluded that, if Apiol be not of equal value to Quinine in the intermittents of hot climates, it may yet be very well substituted for it in indigenous, *i. e.*, European, intermittents; other facts in favour of this remedy are adduced by M. Joret. Dr. Jacquot, however, subjected it to a trial in the military hospitals at Rome, and expresses great doubt as to its efficacy, only one case in six yielding completely to the remedy. It apparently deserves to be classed amongst those minor remedies which often prove successful in mild cases of intermittents. The usual dose is gutt. xv, gradually increased. In *Intermittent Neuralgia* and in the *Night Sweats of Phthisis*, Joret and Homolle consider that this remedy is likely to prove serviceable.

"302. *In Amenorrhœa and Dysmenorrhœa*, Apiol, according to Dr. Joret, is one of the safest and best emmenagogues which can be employed, not being contraindicated even in cases of pregnancy. It is thought to be especially adapted for these states when they arise from a diminution or excess or perversion of the vitality of the uterus, attended with local or general nervous symptoms. To be effectual, it requires to be administered at those periods when the menstrual discharge would be naturally expected to return, and to be continued five or six successive days. A dose should be taken night and morning."

Mr. Waring's volume implies very extensive reading and pains-taking industry in its preparation. It seems to be compiled up to the day of publication, and may be regarded to be an excellent summary exposition of what is at present known about the therapeutic properties of medicines. We commend it to the attention of the profession.

W. S. W. R.

ART. XXXIV.—*A Manual of Medical Jurisprudence*. By ALFRED SWAINE TAYLOR, M. D., F. R. S., F. R. C. P., and Prof. of Medical Jurisprudence and Chemistry in Guy's Hospital. Sixth American edition from the eighth and revised London edition, with notes and references to American decisions. By CLEMENT B. PENROSE, of the Philadelphia Bar. pp. 776. Philadelphia: Henry C. Lea, 1866.

THIS manual of Professor Taylor's is so well known, and its value so fully appreciated, as shown by its having gone to an eighth edition in England and to a sixth in this country, that it would be a work of supererogation to discuss now its general merits. It will be sufficient at this time to indicate the more important improvements made in the present edition.

For the information and guidance of medical men the author has introduced two chapters on evidence and on the duties and responsibilities of medical witnesses, and also some medico-legal subjects not treated of in previous editions. Numerous engravings representing the crystalline forms of poisons and the apparatus for their detection, have likewise been added.

The American editor has restored some parts omitted by the author in the last London edition, and also introduced from Professor Taylor's other work, *The Principles and Practice of Medical Jurisprudence*, some important articles on noxious animal food, trichiniasis, sexual malformations, insanity as affecting civil responsibility, suicidal mania and suicide, life insurance, &c. He has retained the notes of the former American editor, Dr. E. Hartshorne, and added numerous references to American practice, and decisions thus rendering the American far more comprehensive and valuable than the English edition, and making it a most complete and convenient guide in medico-legal practice.